

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating a thin-walled print sleeve comprising:
  - providing a cylindrical support;
  - applying a fibrous material and a polymer resin to said support to form a thin-walled fiber-reinforced resin base sleeve;
  - curing said base sleeve;
  - working an outer surface of said base sleeve to provide a wall thickness of from between about 0.1 mm to about 0.8 mm;
  - applying a layer of compressible material to said outer surface of said base sleeve;
  - applying a layer of material having an imageable surface over said compressible material to form said print sleeve, said material selected from the group consisting of photocurable material, uncured natural rubber, and uncured synthetic rubber;
  - curing said print sleeve; and
  - working an outer surface of said print sleeve to provide a predetermined overall wall thickness.
2. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said fibrous material comprises a fiber strand which is wound onto said support.
3. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said fibrous material comprises a woven fabric.
4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said polymer resin is coated onto said support and said fibrous material is applied to said polymer resin.
5. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 3 in which said woven fabric is impregnated with polymer resin and applied to said support.
6. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said outer surface of said print sleeve is mechanically ground.

7. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said base sleeve is formed by pultrusion and said support comprises a forming die.

8. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said compressible layer comprises a sheet material, and said compressible layer is applied to said base sleeve by spirally wrapping said compressible layer around said base sleeve.

9. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said compressible layer comprises a sheet material, and said compressible layer is applied to said base sleeve by wrapping and seaming opposite ends of said compressible layer.

10. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 8 in which said compressible layer includes a layer of adhesive on at least the surface in contact with said base sleeve.

11. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said compressible layer comprises an uncured elastomer containing uniformly distributed microspheres, and said elastomer is spread onto the surface of said base sleeve.

12. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 11 in which said base sleeve is rotated while said elastomer is spread onto the surface of said base sleeve.

13. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 12 in which said elastomer is cured in place on said base sleeve.

14. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said material having an imageable surface comprises a photocurable material in the form of a sheet, and said layer of photocurable material is applied to said compressible layer by spirally wrapping said sheet around said layer of compressible material.

15. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said material having an imageable surface comprises a photocurable material in the form of a sheet, and said layer of photocurable material is applied to said compressible layer by wrapping and seaming opposite ends of said sheet.

16. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said material having an imageable surface comprises a photocurable material, and said layer of photocurable material is applied to said compressible layer by spreading, dipping, casting, or molding said photocurable on said layer of compressible material.

17. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 16 in which said photocurable material is applied to said compressible layer while said compressible layer is rotating.

18. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said material having an imageable surface comprises uncured natural or synthetic rubber in the form of a sheet, and said material is applied to said compressible layer by spirally wrapping said sheet around said layer of compressible material.

19. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said material having an imageable surface comprises uncured natural or synthetic rubber in the form of a sheet, and said material is applied to said compressible layer by wrapping and seaming opposite ends of said sheet.

20. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said material having an imageable surface comprises uncured natural or synthetic rubber in the form of an extruded tube which is mounted over said compressible layer.

21. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which said material having an imageable surface comprises uncured natural or synthetic rubber which is spread over said compressible layer.